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COMMITTEE ON OVERHEAD RECONNAISSANCE

COMOR-D-4

Copy 26 of 30

23 August 1960

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Handling of TALENT Photography in Preliminary Phases

1. The Ad Hoc Requirements Committee (ARC) has reviewed the current practices in the initial handling of TALENT photography and has reached agreement for the improvement in such handling as indicated in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7, below.

2. Principles Underlying the Procedures

a. That the information from the raw materials has been collected in response to the requirements of the US intelligence community on a priority basis and, in addition, insofar as feasible without detriment to the foregoing, in response to the departmental requirements.

b. That the processing and handling of the raw material shall be accomplished with the maximum speed possible within maintenance of high-quality standards.

c. That the maximum efficiency and speed shall apply in the preparation of the preliminary interpretation report through the full participation of the USIB community, along with the simultaneous transmission of the report to relevant overseas posts.

d. That one department seeking to scoop other departments with TALENT information will most likely, in the long run, be detrimental to the interests of the intelligence community.

3. Procedures

In trying to set upon the foregoing principles and to achieve the objective implicit in them, the ARC has:



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b. Provided a forum for the review of the procedures established by PIC in keeping with the foregoing principles. Over the years the procedures of PIC to ensure the full participation of the community in the preliminary readout have progressed to its highest state as of the readout [REDACTED]

c. Arranged for the prompt and equal access of the agencies to all intelligence information derived from a Mission, whether photographic, electronic or pilot debriefings.

4. As a means of improving our procedures, the ARC agreed that:

a. During the preliminary interpretation at PIC by the community, only personnel authorized for that immediate task be allowed in the areas designated for ODE preparation in PIC.

b. No information be transmitted from PIC through briefings, telephone calls or written memoranda bearing upon the substance of the interpretation until the ODE is produced. If information has been uncovered deemed critical by the agencies participating, a flash report will be issued to the community simultaneously.

c. As soon as briefing materials are available on highlights (which is likely to occur prior to the publication of the ODE), the DD/I's Office should take responsibility for calling together the USIB at a Special Meeting for a briefing to be presented by the Director, PIC, with briefing representatives available from each agency participating in the readout, such briefing to include an operational briefing by the Acting Chief, DPD.

5. The ARC has reviewed the schedule for production and dissemination of the duplicate materials and has agreed on the following order of priority:

PRIORITY I (for Inter-Agency Use)

PRIORITY II

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PRIORITY III

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6. It is understood that the first four copies listed in Priority 1 will be moved simultaneously to PIC for community use in preparation of the ODE. The fifth and sixth copies will be produced simultaneously with Priority I materials if technically feasible or, if not feasible, then immediately following the Priority I materials and moved to the recipients as rapidly as feasible. Movement is a responsibility of Ops/DPD, CIA, and USAF Air Ops.

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Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

Distribution:

Cy 2 - OACSI TCO
Cys 3, 4, 5 - ONI TCO
Cys 6, 7 - AFCIN TCO
Cy 8 - NSA TCO
Cy 9 - State TCO
Cy 10 - JCS TCO

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